

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1238

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to the surviving spouses of certain former prisoners of war dying with a service-connected disability rated totally disabling at the time of death.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 17, 1999

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself and Mr. WELLSTONE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to the surviving spouses of certain former prisoners of war dying with a service-connected disability rated totally disabling at the time of death.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION**

4 **FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES OF FORMER PRIS-**
5 **ONERS OF WAR.**

6 (a) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 1318(b) of title 38,
7 United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) by striking “that either—” in the matter
 2 preceding paragraph (1) and inserting “rated totally
 3 disabling if—”; and

4 (2) by adding at the end the following new
 5 paragraph:

6 “(3) the veteran was a former prisoner of war
 7 who died after September 30, 1999, and who had
 8 been diagnosed as having one of the diseases speci-
 9 fied in section 1112(b) of this title.”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Such section is
 11 further amended—

12 (1) in paragraph (1)—

13 (A) by inserting “the disability” after
 14 “(1)”; and

15 (B) by striking “or” after “death;”; and

16 (2) in paragraph (2)—

17 (A) by striking “if so rated for a lesser pe-
 18 riod, was so rated continuously” and inserting
 19 “the disability was continuously rated totally
 20 disabling”; and

21 (B) by striking the period at the end and
 22 inserting “; or”.

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